

**Appl. No.** : **10/713,360**  
**Filed** : **November 14, 2003**

### **REMARKS**

In the Office Action mailed on November 9, 2004, the Examiner rejected Claims 17-18, 28-29, 33, 38-39 and 54-61 and objected to Claims 19-27, 30-32 and 34-37 as being dependent on rejected base claims, but noted that these claims were otherwise allowable. The Examiner also stated that Claims 1-16 and 40-53 were allowable. In the present Amendment and Response to Office Action, Applicants have rewritten certain of the allowable dependent claims in independent form, amended some of the rejected claims to depend from allowable claims, and have cancelled the remainder of the rejected claims. Thus, Claims 1-16, 19-32, 34-53 are currently pending in this case. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and full consideration of the remarks contained herein.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter and Amendments to the Claims**

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 1-16 and 40-53 are allowable and that dependent Claims 19-27, 30-32 and 34-37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicants have rewritten Claims 19, 22, 34 and 36 in independent form. Claims 19 and 22 now recite all limitations of cancelled base Claim 17 and intervening Claim 18. In addition, Claims 34 and 36 now recite all the limitations of base Claim 33. In view of these amendments, dependent Claim 28 has been amended to depend from Claim 19, and dependent Claims 38-39 have been amended to depend from Claim 34. All dependent claims now depend from allowable independent claims. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending Claims 1-16, 19-32, 34-53 are in condition for allowance.

In addition, dependent Claim 23 has been amended to correct a typographical error and now recites "the group consisting of" rather than "the groups consisting of." Because Applicants have merely incorporated limitations of independent claims and, in some cases, intervening dependent claims, into certain of the dependent claims and have merely changed the dependencies of other claims or correct obvious typographical errors, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments add no new matter and are fully supported by the Application as originally filed.

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**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 17-18 and 28-29 as being anticipated by Kohyama (U.S. Patent No. 5,616,961); Claims 33 and 38-39 as being anticipated by Zenke (U.S. Patent No. 6,020,248); and Claims 54-61 as being anticipated by Zheng (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0014279). While Applicants do not acquiesce in the rejections and respectfully submit that the art of record does not render the rejected claims unpatentable, Applicants have nevertheless cancelled rejected Claims 17-18, 33 and 54-61 and amended rejected Claims 28 and 38-39 to expedite prosecution of the present Application. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are moot and that the pending claims are allowable over the art of record.

**CONCLUSIONS**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request entry of the amendments and submit that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same. If some issue remains which the Examiner feels may be addressed by Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned for authorization.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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